

Roll call.

*(Whereupon, the roll was called.)*

THE PRESIDENT: Has every delegate answered roll call?

The Clerk will record the roll call.

There being a quorum present, the Convention is in session.

The Chair recognizes Delegate Powers.

DELEGATE POWERS: Mr. President, I move the Convention resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole for the purpose of resuming consideration of the general orders of the day.

*(Whereupon, the motion was seconded.)*

THE PRESIDENT: The motion has been seconded. All in favor, signify by saying Aye; opposed, No. The Ayes have it and it is so ordered.

*(Whereupon, at 7:42 P.M. the Convention resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole.)*

*(The mace was removed by the Sergeant-at-Arms.)*

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

DECEMBER 11, 1967—7:42 P.M.

PRESIDENT H. VERNON ENEY,  
PRESIDING

THE CHAIRMAN: The Committee of the Whole will please come to order.

We shall resume consideration of R&P-1.

We have under consideration Amendment No. 5, offered by Lloyd Taylor. Your copy of the amendment should be corrected so that in line 8 you strike out, beginning with the semicolon, all of line 9, and the words "national origin,".

Delegate Hutchinson.

DELEGATE HUTCHINSON: Mr. President, I would like this Convention to welcome a group of people from Essex Community College, men and women who are taking a free course on the Constitutional Convention who are accompanied by their instructors, Mr. Ted Venetoulis, and Dr. Gardner Pond. They are in the rear gallery, and I hope that we give them a nice warm welcome. *(Applause.)*

THE CHAIRMAN: The Chair recognizes Delegate Taylor to speak to Amendment No. 5.

DELEGATE L. TAYLOR: Mr. Chairman, this amendment is an addition to the minority report. It is what should be done to protect minority groups in the State of Maryland.

Last week the Committee gave special consideration and protection to bona fide farmers in the area of farm assessments. My amendment is not directed to special consideration or favoritism to a group, but to the elimination of discrimination against the economically deprived citizen.

Economic favoritism toward a multitude of citizens has been practiced in this country for a long time since the founding fathers wrote the United States Constitution. When Patrick Henry was attending the Constitutional Convention for the State of Virginia, he was quite upset about the fact that the economic interests were in control at the Philadelphia Convention. He made statements to the effect that the United States Constitution was being written for the advantage of certain economic interests.

Out of that particular incident, pressure was brought for the enactment of the Bill of Rights, and we received that Bill of Rights in what you might call a compromise to the economically determined Constitution.

In most cases, the economic favoritism has worked to the disadvantage of the poor, the low income people. Somehow the 14th Amendment, the equal protection doctrine, has failed to cover the low income group or to shield the poor from the many inequities from which they usually suffer.

I want to read from current events and documents, to support this amendment. First I shall read from a speech by Vice President Humphrey which is reported in the Congressional Record. He made this speech to the 9th Annual Meeting of the American Bar Association in Honolulu, Hawaii. When he was talking to the members of the Bar Association he talked about poverty, and he said: "For, as Justice Fortas recently put it, the law, to the poor, is a system devised 'by the establishment—of the establishment—for the establishment.' "This is a law which is known in the ghetto, not as the blindfolded goddess of even-handed justice, but as 'the man'—capricious, arbitrary, authoritarian, foreign—worthy of fear but not of respect."

Then he went on to compliment the lawyers in their very courageous fight in bringing certain legal rights to the fore. He said that many lawyers in the City of